

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL
19 December 1982

Italian ministers to address "Bulgarian Connection"
By PHILIP PULLELLA
ROME

* * * * *

In an interview published Sunday in the Turin daily La Stampa, Ray Cline, director of the Center for Strategic and International Studies at Georgetown University and former deputy director for intelligence at the CIA, said he believed the Bulgarians were involved in a plot to kill the pope.

"I don't have any doubts that there was a plot to kill the pope and I think the Bulgarian secret police took part, with the consent - instigation would be too strong a word -- of that (secret police) of the Soviets." Cline was quoted as saying.

"The KGB is the coordination center of the spy system of Eastern Europe and the Bulgarians could not have moved without a Soviet imprimatur," La Stampa quoted Cline as saying.

"I think the objective of Sofia and Moscow was Poland and not your country. Italy has become the unwilling stage of this drama," Cline was quoted as saying.

* * * * *